

THE  
ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER  
MUSEUM, INCORPORATED  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT  
1944





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Isabella Stuart Gardner



The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum  
INCORPORATED

Annual Report  
for the year 1944



BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

1945



# THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED

Sole Trustee under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner



FRANCIS LEE HIGGINSON, *President*

THOMAS JEFFERSON COOLIDGE, *Vice-President*

<sup>1</sup> MRS. GEORGE HOWARD MONKS, *Secretary*

Neé OLGA ELIZA GARDNER

<sup>2</sup> JEROME D. GREENE, *Secretary and Treasurer*

## TRUSTEES

<sup>1</sup> OLGA ELIZA MONKS      FRANCIS LEE HIGGINSON

THOMAS JEFFERSON COOLIDGE      ARTHUR POPE

RICHARD CUSHING PAINE      JEROME DAVIS GREENE

GEORGE PEABODY GARDNER

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## DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM

MORRIS CARTER

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

<sup>3</sup> HENRY CASAD ROSS

<sup>4</sup> WILLIAM NORRIS MASON

<sup>1</sup> Died April 22, 1944

<sup>2</sup> Appointed Secretary May 15, 1944

<sup>3</sup> Died July 30, 1944

<sup>4</sup> Appointed June 4, 1944



## NOTE

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, December 19, 1900, Mrs. Gardner's sole beneficial ownership of the works of art held by this corporation being represented by stock. (*For the Certificate of Incorporation see p. 6 and for a copy of an Act of 1925 authorizing the corporation to hold additional real and personal estate, see p. 7.*)

The Will and Codicil of Isabella Stewart Gardner probated July 22, 1924, gave to Trustees all her land in Boston including Fenway Court and the land adjacent thereto, and her works of art, or her interest therein as represented by stock of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated. (*For the relevant provisions of the Will and Codicil see p. 8.*)

On November 23, 1936, the Trustees then surviving executed an Agreement of Association with the intention of forming a corporation under Chapter 180 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth (*see p. 11*). A certificate of Incorporation was granted on December 23, 1936, as of the date of the said Agreement (*see p. 13*). An Act authorizing the corporation to hold additional real and personal estate was approved March 23, 1937 (*see p. 14*).

The Trustees under the Will having resigned upon the formation of the corporation, The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, was on December 24, 1936, appointed by the Probate Court of Suffolk County, sole Trustee of the estate theretofore held in trust by the individual Trustees. (*For the Certificate of the Probate Court, see p. 15.*)

By an Act of the General Court of the Commonwealth approved May 14, 1943, the real estate in Boston of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Inc., was exempted from taxation as from January 1, 1943. (*For the Act see page 16.*)



## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Be it known** *That whereas* John Chipman Gray, Isabella Stewart Gardner, Henry Walton Swift, Harold Jefferson Coolidge, Charles L. Pierson, Willard Thomas Sears, and William Amory Gardner have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM  
IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED

for the purpose of art education, especially by the public exhibition of works of art, with a capital of Fifty Thousand Dollars, and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of the Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director of the said Corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations and recorded in this office:

**Now, Therefore,** I, William M. Olin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, **Do hereby Certify** that said John Chipman Gray, Isabella Stewart Gardner, Henry Walton Swift, Harold Jefferson Coolidge, Charles L. Pierson, Willard Thomas Sears, and William Amory Gardner, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as and are hereby made an existing corporation under the name of

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM  
IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED

with the powers, rights, and privileges, and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions which by law appertain thereto.

**Witness** my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed this nineteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred.

[Seal]

WM. M. OLIN,  
*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*Acts of 1925 — Chapter 198*

**An Act** to authorize THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED, to hold additional real and personal estate and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED, a charitable institution organized under the general laws relating to charitable corporations, may hold real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding eight million dollars, including the amount it is already authorized to hold by section nine of chapter one hundred and eighty of the general laws, which estate shall be devoted to the purposes of said institution, as provided in said section nine, so that through its agency may be carried on the endowed Museum given under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner for the education and enjoyment of the public forever.

*Approved March 30, 1925.*

EXCERPTS FROM THE WILL AND CODICIL  
OF  
ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER

Dated May 9, 1921: Probated July 23, 1924

THIRD: 1. To Harold J. Coolidge, Grafton D. Cushing, William C. Endicott, Francis L. Higginson, Jr., and Arthur F. Johnson, all of Boston, and to said Arthur Pope, and to Henry D. Sleeper of Gloucester, and the survivors and survivor of them, and the heirs of the survivor, I devise all the land which I own in Boston, and especially the land comprising my estate known as Fenway Court, and my land adjacent thereto, situated on the Fenway, the Tremont entrance to the Fenway Park, and Worthington Street, which tract includes the lots conveyed to me by deeds of Augustus P. Loring, dated January 31, 1899, and June 13, 1899, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 2620, *Fol.* 107 and 109; deed of Moses Williams *et al.*, Trustees, dated February 26, 1900, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 2667, *Fol.* 306; deed of Henry M. White, dated January 1, 1901, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 2728, *Fol.* 25; deed of Moses Williams *et al.*, Trustees, dated June 16, 1906, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3136, *Fol.* 170; deed of Paul and Rachel S. Thorndike, acknowledged March 22, 1907, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3197, *Fol.* 493; deed of Charles Paine, dated November 20, 1911, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3589, *Fol.* 232, and deed of Moses Williams *et al.*, Trustees, dated January 8, 1913, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3700, *Fol.* 631, with the buildings thereon, and I also bequeath to the said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, and the survivors and survivor of them, and the

representatives of the survivor, all my interest in the pictures, statuary, works of art, bric-a-brac, furniture, books and papers, contained at my death in all the stories of the main building of said Fenway Court other than the fourth story and the attic, and also in or upon the grounds adjoining said building, and all such articles as are above mentioned wherever situated intended or destined to be contained in these stories other than the fourth story and the attic, including all the property in which I own the beneficial interest through my ownership of all the shares of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, all the aforesaid real and personal property to be held by said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, in trust as a Museum for the education and enjoyment of the public forever, but no works of art shall be placed therein for exhibition other than such as I, or the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, own or have contracted for at my death. And I direct that, if any question arises as to what is intended or destined for said stories other than the fourth story and the attic, the judgment of my Executors or Executor shall be final.

2. Whereas in the foregoing paragraph I have bequeathed all my interest in certain personal property, and whereas the legal title to it or to a portion of it is in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, and whereas it is my intention that all the property of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, shall be and remain in the Museum established under this will, now, therefore, I give and bequeath all my shares in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, to said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, to be held in trust



for the purposes of the Museum established under this will, I hereby directing the Trustees so to hold and manage said shares that all the property of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, shall be and remain forever in the Museum established under this will subject to all the provisions of this will relating to the Museum so established. And I authorize the said Trustees, as the holders of all the shares of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, to procure its dissolution, and the transfer and delivery of all its property to them as Trustees to be held in trust for the purposes of the Museum established under this will in accordance with all the provisions of this will relating to said Museum.

3. I also give to the said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, and the survivors and survivor of them, and the representatives of the survivor, the sum of one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) in trust to apply the income of it to maintain the Museum established under this will in accordance with all the provisions of this will.

# AGREEMENT OF ASSOCIATION

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATIONS AND TAXATION

**We**, whose names are hereto subscribed, do, by this agreement, associate ourselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the provisions of Chapter 180 of the General Laws (Ter. Ed.).

The name by which the corporation shall be known is

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED.

The location of the principal office of the corporation to be in Massachusetts is the City of Boston.

The purposes for which the corporation is formed are as follows:—

To conduct the museum established by the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner and otherwise to carry out the charitable purposes contained in said will, and incidentally thereto to act in any manner under said will with all the rights and powers conferred by said will, and to receive and hold real and personal property including all the property now held by the trustees under the will of said Isabella Stewart Gardner, and to administer all such property upon the trusts and in conformity with the provisions of said will.

The amount of its capital stock (if any) is   *None*   dollars

The par value of its shares is                   *None*                   dollars

The number of its shares is                   *None*

**We hereby waive** all requirements of the General Laws of Massachusetts for notice of the first meeting for organization, and appoint the 23rd day of November 1936, at one o'clock P.M., at Fenway Court, Boston, Massachusetts, as the time and place for holding said first meeting.

**In Witness Whereof** we have hereto signed our names  
this 23rd day of November in the year nineteen hundred and  
thirty-six.

NAME	RESIDENCE (City or town; street and number)
William C. Endicott	59 Ingersoll St., Danvers, Mass.
Francis L. Higginson	Cherry St., Wenham, Mass.
Grafton D. Cushing	45 East 66th St., N. Y. C.
T. Jefferson Coolidge	35 Lapland St., Brookline
Richard C. Paine	325 Heath St., Brookline, Mass.
Olga E. Monks	51 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
Arthur Pope	11 Lowell St., Cambridge, Mass.



# CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Be it known** *That whereas* William C. Endicott (deceased), Francis L. Higginson, Olga E. Monks, T. Jefferson Coolidge, Grafton D. Cushing, Richard C. Paine and Arthur Pope have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED,  
for the purpose of the following:—To conduct the museum established by the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner and otherwise to carry out the charitable purposes contained in said will, and incidentally thereto to act in any manner under said will with all the rights and powers conferred by said will, and to receive and hold real and personal property including all the property now held by the trustees under the will of said Isabella Stewart Gardner, and to administer all such property upon the trusts and in conformity with the provisions of said will; and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of this Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the Articles of Organization of said corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation and recorded in this office:

**Now, therefore,** I, Frederic W. Cook, Secretary of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, **Do Hereby Certify** that said William C. Endicott (deceased), Francis L. Higginson, Olga E. Monks, T. Jefferson Coolidge, Grafton D. Cushing, Richard C. Paine and Arthur Pope, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as, and are hereby made, an existing corporation as of November 28, 1936, under the name of THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, with the powers, rights and privileges and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions, which by law appertain thereto.

**Witness** my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the Great Seal of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed, this twenty-third day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six.

F. W. COOK

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

[Seal]

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### *Chapter 126 — Laws of 1937*

**An Act** authorizing THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, to hold additional real and personal estate.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, a charitable institution organized under the general laws relating to charitable corporations to carry out the charitable provisions contained in the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, may hold real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding twelve million dollars notwithstanding the limitation provided by section nine of chapter one hundred and eighty of the General Laws; which estate shall be devoted to the purposes of said institution as provided in said section nine.

*Approved March 23, 1937.*



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## PROBATE COURT

SUFFOLK, SS.

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, of Boston, Suffolk County, a Massachusetts Corporation, is appointed trustee of certain estate given in trust as a Museum for the education and enjoyment of the public forever under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, late of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, deceased, testate, which will was proved and allowed on the twenty-first day of August A.D. 1924, by said Court, and is now of record in this Court, to act in place of William C. Endicott, deceased, Grafton D. Cushing, Olga E. Monks, Richard C. Paine, T. Jefferson Coolidge, Arthur Pope and Francis L. Higginson (resigned).

And you are required to make and return to said Probate Court, within three months from the date hereof, a true inventory of all real and personal estate belonging to it as trustee, which at the time of the making of such inventory shall have come to its possession or knowledge;

To manage and dispose of all such estate, and faithfully to discharge its trust in relation thereto, according to law and the will of said testatrix;

To render, upon oath, a true account of the property in its hands, and of the management and disposition thereof, at least once a year until its trust is fulfilled, unless excused therefrom in any year by said Court; and

At the expiration of its trust, to settle its account in said Court, and pay over and deliver all the estate and effects remaining in its hands, or due from it on such settlement, to the person or persons entitled thereto.

**Witness**, William M. Prest, Esquire, Judge of said Court, at Boston, this 24th day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six.

ARTHUR W. SULLIVAN, *Register*.

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*Acts of the Year 1943*

*Chapter 279*

**An Act** to Exempt from Taxation the Real Estate in Boston of THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, Trustee under the Will of Isabella Stewart Gardner.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

The real estate, hereinafter described, located in the city of Boston and held by THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, as trustee under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, shall be exempt from taxation beginning January first, nineteen hundred and forty-three, and continuing so long as the museum, known as the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, is operated by said corporation for the education and enjoyment of the public. Said real estate includes the building housing said museum and is bounded northwesterly by Worthington street; northeasterly by the Fenway; southeasterly by Evans Way; southwesterly by land now or formerly of Carol H. Powers et al. one hundred and twenty-one hundredths feet; and northwesterly thirty-two and sixty-nine hundredths feet and southwesterly eighty-four and eighty-nine hundredths feet by land now or formerly of Harold J. Coolidge et al, Trustees; containing about sixty-six thousand, seven hundred and ninety-four square feet.

*Approved May 14, 1943.*

# THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED

## BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I

The officers of this corporation shall consist of a board of seven Trustees, a presiding officer to be known as the President of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, a Vice-President of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, a financial officer to be known as the Treasurer of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, and a recording officer to be known as the Secretary of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated.

### ARTICLE II

The Trustees shall have the right to resign, and upon the death or resignation of any of them the remainder shall have the right to fill the vacancy or vacancies by the election of a new member or members.

### ARTICLE III

The Trustees shall have general control of the property of the corporation and shall have power to appoint from time to time such agents as they may deem necessary for the appropriate conduct of the affairs of the corporation, subject to the provisions of the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner.

### ARTICLE IV

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number a President of the Corporation; but the President to hold office from the date of incorporation until the



first annual meeting of the Trustees shall be chosen by the incorporators at the first meeting of the Corporation.

#### ARTICLE V

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number a Vice-President of the Corporation; but the Vice-President to hold office from the date of incorporation until the first annual meeting of the Trustees shall be chosen by the incorporators at the first meeting of the Corporation. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to preside at meetings of the Trustees in the absence of the President. The Vice-President may also hold the office of Treasurer or Secretary if elected.

#### ARTICLE VI

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number a Treasurer of the Corporation; but the Treasurer to hold office from the date of incorporation until the first annual meeting of the Trustees shall be chosen by the incorporators at the first meeting of the Corporation. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the financial records of the Corporation and report thereon to the Trustees.

#### ARTICLE VII

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number a Secretary of the Corporation; but the Secretary to hold office from the date of incorporation until the first annual meeting of the Trustees shall be chosen by the incorporators at the first meeting of the Corporation. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the meetings of the Trustees and to give the requisite notice thereof.



## ARTICLE VIII

The Trustees shall have power to act on all questions by a majority of their number. The Trustees shall have the right to fill any vacancies in the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary. The Trustees shall have the right to put any securities in the names of two or more of their number, either individually or as Trustees of this Corporation, and the Trustees so named, or their survivors or survivor, shall have power to assign and transfer such securities, and to execute powers of attorney, proxies to vote, dividend orders, subscriptions and other instruments relating to such securities. No Trustee shall be liable for retaining bonds or securities unregistered, for leaving securities in the possession or control of any other of the Trustees, for any error of judgment, or for anything except his own wilful personal default.

## ARTICLE IX

An annual meeting of the Trustees shall be held at Boston on the second Monday of February in each year. Special meetings may be held at any time, either in Boston or elsewhere in the Commonwealth, upon the request of any of the Trustees. The Secretary shall give notice thereof to each Trustee, either personally or by mail, at least three days prior to the time of such meeting, or said notice may be given by the President, but any meeting of the Trustees at any place at which all shall be present shall be valid without any previous notice thereof.

## ARTICLE X

A notice of any meeting of the Trustees, mailed to addresses furnished by them, shall be sufficient notice.

## ARTICLE XI

The seal of the corporation shall consist of a circular impression bearing the corporate name and the year of incorporation and a design representing a phoenix surmounted by a helmet with the motto *C'est mon plaisir*.

## ARTICLE XII

The By-Laws may be amended in any manner not incompatible with the due administration of the trusts set up in the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, at any annual or special meeting, provided that notice of such intended amendment shall be given in the call for the meeting.

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT



### TO THE TRUSTEES:

The chief satisfaction of the past year was the replacement of the pictures and other objects which had been stored in places considered to be less vulnerable to enemy attack. This replacement was effected during the spring and was completed by May 15, 1944.

It is with the utmost regret that it is necessary to record the death on April 22, 1944, of Mrs. Olga Eliza Monks. Mrs. Monks was the niece of Mrs. Gardner and had a particularly intimate relationship with her. She became Trustee September 24, 1934, and Secretary on January 27, 1936. Her intimacy with Mrs. Gardner and with the early days of Fenway Court was always helpful and her devotion to her duties in spite of her failing health was remarkable. It is also necessary to record with great regret the serious illness and eventual death on July 30, 1944, of the Assistant Director, Mr. Henry C. Ross. Mr. Ross's appreciation of his work and his enthusiasm for it will be hard to surpass.

On May 15, 1944, Trustee Jerome D. Greene was elected Secretary to succeed Mrs. Monks, and on June 4, 1944, Mr. William Norris Mason was appointed Assistant Director.

In connection with our discussions with the City of Boston with regard to the assessment of taxes for 1942 as a result of the decision against The Animal Rescue League of Boston, it was decided that it was unwise to prolong the matter any further, and to pay the assessment for that year, which was done. As stated in my last report, The Boston real estate of the Museum was granted exemption thereafter by the State Legislature.



The income of the Museum from General Funds showed an increase of \$5,020.27, compared with that of the previous year, while the receipts at the Museum increased \$879.23. The total operating and over-head expenses increased \$12,647.54, leaving after the customary transfer of \$10,000 to our own Pension Fund and the payment of the special tax to the City of Boston of \$16,066.85, and certain war expenses, a surplus for the year of \$29,533.14, a decrease of \$10,835.74 compared with last year, before allowing for amortization of bond premiums.

As the year 1944 completed one of the five-year periods, it becomes the duty of the Trustees, as required by Mrs. Gardner's will, to consider the matter of distribution from the surplus accumulated during the past five years to the Massachusetts General Hospital and the Boston Lying-In Hospital. These distributions will be determined at the annual meeting, and recorded in the next annual report.

The attendance totalled 81,550 for the year, showing a marked increase over last year and, in fact, was nearly up to the record years of 1940 and 1941. An interesting feature of this increase was that week day attendance was up thirty per cent, while the Sunday figures were up twenty-one per cent. Fuller details will be found in the Director's report.

Mr. Carter and the whole staff, both at the Museum and at the greenhouse, are to be congratulated on the way they have been able to keep things going under the present difficult conditions.

F. L. HIGGINSON, *President.*

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR



### TO THE TRUSTEES:

I have the honor to present my twentieth report as Director of the Museum.

It has been a good year; all our works of art have been returned to their proper places and our attendance shows an increase of nearly twenty-five per cent over 1943.

Fifty-eight of our pictures and the stained glass had been brought back on December 27, 1943. On February 1, two men from the studio of Charles J. Connick began the work of unpacking the stained glass windows, and setting them in place. The remaining twenty-four pictures were returned on April 24, 1944. It had been hoped that by waiting until that date, we might be safe from winter storms and icy roads, but April 23rd proved to be one of the worst driving days of the winter. The bad condition of the roads was not discovered until the Museum's men and the hired truck had started for our repository. On the 24th there was a bad storm, and in addition a truck-driver strike had been called and it was reported that trucks were being halted on the road. Nevertheless, as the insurance had been placed for that day, and the other special forms of protection had been arranged, it was decided to complete the expedition. The state police were asked to convoy our truck and they gave most efficient supervision, never failing to make connections at state and city lines.

On April 24th, our thoughts could be given only partially to the safety of pictures, for on that afternoon, the funeral of Mrs. George H. Monks was held. During the four and a half years of Mrs. Gardner's invalidism, her unselfish devotion had been untiring, and always her interest in the



Museum had been deep and intelligent. She met human problems with sympathetic understanding, and to me was always a most helpful counsellor. Although it was obvious that her strength was failing, she attended the Requiem for Mrs. Gardner on April 14th and stayed for breakfast afterward. She attended the meeting of the Trustees at the Museum on the 17th, and died on the 22nd.

In December, Mr. George Peabody Gardner gave the Museum two hundred and six orchid plants. These are a valuable addition to the collection already owned by the Museum, and enabled us to maintain in the court during the entire winter groups of orchids in flower. These plants, which are unfamiliar to many of our visitors, who know only the blooms as they appear in florists' windows, excite great interest and give great pleasure.

The disastrous fire at the Cocoanut Grove night-club led to inspection of, and new regulations for all places of public assembly. We were ordered to place exit signs over the doors of the Tapestry Room, and to arrange that all those doors should open out. Other doors, including the main entrance door on the Fenway, were also ordered re-hung to open out. The revolving door commonly used as the public entrance is under a ban, but we have been advised to keep it as long as possible on the chance that the ban will be lifted.

During the summer extensive repairs were made to the gutters all around the building and to the copper work of the roof and around chimneys, skylights and windows. The foundations under the fountain in the court were examined and found to be solid; considerable portions of the brick wall surrounding the garden were re-pointed and the top of one of the high piers and of the high wall between the garage and the Evans Way gate were taken down and re-built.

It is pleasant to believe that the return of the paintings has



caused the increase in attendance from 65,027 in 1943 to 81,150 in 1944, and such may well be the fact, although no publicity accompanied their return and many people are still not aware that they have come back. In 1940 and 1941, our attendance was over 80,000, higher somewhat than in 1944, but it dropped in 1942, when the paintings went into hiding.

Nevertheless music seems to be the chief lure; most visitors come in the afternoon and listen to the music; there are daily telephone inquiries about the hour of the music, the names of the musicians, and occasionally a request that the entire program be read. During 1944, the following musicians have appeared on our Sunday programs: The Harvard Glee Club and the Radcliffe Choral Society; the Gordon, Roth, Stradivarius and Zimblar quartets; the violinists, Mary Becker, Mariam Burroughs, Louis Kaufman, Inez Lauritano, Frances Magnes, and Walter Trampler; the cellists, Stefan Auber, Jean Bedetti, Mischel Cherniavsky, and Raya Garbousova; the pianists, David Bacon, Hellmut Baerwald, Jan Cherniavsky, Leon Fleisher, Sidney Foster, Boris Goldovsky, Aurora Mauro-Cottone, Harold Rubens, Leo Smit, and Bernhard Weiser; the singers, Lucielle Browning and Doris Doree (both of the Metropolitan Opera Company) Carol Brice, Ellabelle Davis, Jean Love, Mae Taylor, Barbara Troxell, Wesley Copplestone, Gordon Dilworth, Donald Gage, William Gephart, Joseph Laderoute.

In March in New York, Mr. Ross and I heard several candidates for musical engagements at the Museum. Occasionally musicians must be engaged who have not been previously heard, but who have been highly recommended, and sometimes their performance is very disappointing. Movies were shown in the class-room on Tuesday afternoons, except from June 1st to October 1st.

On September 1, 1943 Mr. Henry Casad Ross came to the Museum as Assistant Director. He proved to be, in many respects, the best assistant I have had. He thoroughly enjoyed meeting all kinds of people and telling them about the Museum; our regular morning guidance gave him great pleasure. His admiration for the Museum collection was unlimited, and his enthusiasm for every phase of Museum activity was contagious; he was an inspiration to all of us in our work. On May 9, 1944 he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage, and after a month at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, was taken to a nursing home in Cambridge, where on July 30th he died. His place has been taken by William Norris Mason, who became Assistant Director June 4th.

Teobaldo Travi, who was Mrs. Gardner's Chief of Staff while Fenway Court was being built, and who continued in her employ until her death, and then in the employ of the Museum until he was pensioned with full pay on July 1, 1940, died June 5th. His wife died the next morning.

John P. Sullivan who took charge of the Museum greenhouses June 16, 1925, just after they were purchased, and under whose supervision the entire range was reconstructed; whose specimen plants had so regularly won first prizes at the shows of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society that he was recognized as one of the best growers in the vicinity, died August 13th. He had been an invalid ever since he was disabled by a hit-and-run driver March 10, 1942, and had been receiving a pension since January 1, 1943. His son, John F. Sullivan now heads the greenhouse staff.

The Museum photographer, Joseph B. Pratt, was drafted for the Army in January. As he said that he would like to return to the Museum when he should be discharged, the Museum is paying him the difference between what he was earning here and what he receives from the Army.



There have been several other changes in Museum personnel, some of which were due to illness; at the greenhouse three men who worked there for short periods proved unsatisfactory.

### Attendance

*Calendar Year* 1944 (11 mos., closed in August)

Weekdays	34,755	increase over previous year	7,929
Sundays	46,395	“ “ “ “	8,194
Total	81,150	“ “ “ “	16,123

Ninety-eight special groups, including 2,638 people, visited the Museum; 36 of these groups had special guidance, and tea was served for 11 of them. One thousand and twenty-seven visitors took advantage of the free guidance offered on weekdays at 11 o'clock. Among the special groups were 38 groups from public schools and colleges, 12 of them outside of Boston, 10 from private schools, 13 groups of Girl Scouts, 12 groups from churches and women's clubs, and 16 from Settlement Houses and Hospital Training Schools for Nurses. The Museum gave three teas for wives of men in the Service who are studying at Harvard and also served refreshments to a group of convalescent veterans from Fort Devens; a tea was also given for the New England Conference of Museums which met in November.

### Sales

Catalogue of Exhibited Paintings and Drawings,	
Hendy	62
Isabella Stewart Gardner and Fenway Court, Carter	83
General Catalogue, Longstreet	18
Guides	3159
Photographs	301

Colored prints	251
Postcards, monochrome	10263
Postcards, colored, 5 cents	32436
Postcards, colored, 10 cents	1115
Half-tones	4
Christmas folder	743
Lantern Slides	8

*\*Receipts*

Guidance	\$ 1.00
Sales	3,075.38
Teas	390.75
	<hr/>
	\$3,467.13

The devotion of the entire staff to the interests of the Museum, their admiration of its possessions and their conviction of the value of its service to the public produce complete co-operation in all the work of the Museum, for which I am constantly grateful.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS CARTER, *Director.*

\* Receipts at the Museum are offset to some extent by expenditures on the accounts of the Treasurer.

# REPORT OF THE AUDITORS



PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.

75 Federal Street  
Boston 10

February 2, 1945.

*To The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated,  
Trustee under the Will of Isabella Stewart Gardner:*

We have made an examination of the accounts of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, Trustee under the Will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, for the year ending December 31, 1944 and have prepared therefrom the accompanying balance sheet and statement of income received, expenditures and appropriations.

The properties and securities of the Museum are stated in the accompanying balance sheet at the amounts shown in a trustee's inventory as of December 24, 1936 filed with the Probate Court of Suffolk County, or at cost in the case of subsequent additions. We have computed the value of the stocks and bonds on the basis of available market quotations as at December 31, 1944, and have obtained from the Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company the liquidating value as at that date of the Museum's investment in the company. These values have been included in the respective captions in the attached balance sheet. The securities owned at December 31, 1944 were confirmed direct to us by the custodian, Fiduciary Trust Company.

We examined copies of brokers' advices or other evidence in support of all security transactions reflected on the books and satisfied ourselves as to the amount of the resulting gain or loss from sales determined on the basis of values shown in the trustee's inventory as of December 24, 1936 or the cost



of subsequent additions. On October 24, 1944 the securities owned by the Museum as at that date were inspected by us.

The cash on hand at the Museum offices was counted by us during the course of our examination and reconciled with the balances shown by the books as on hand at December 31, 1944. The amount of cash on deposit at December 31, 1944 was reconciled by us with confirmations which we received direct from the depositaries and included the following balances of uninvested cash held under the control of the Fiduciary Trust Company:

Investment	\$223,023.46
Pension fund	10,433.86
	<hr/>
	\$233,457.32

Income received from investments held by all the funds has been verified independently by us and is correctly reflected in the attached statements. Income and expenses are not accrued in the accounts of the Museum until received or paid, except in respect of United States Savings Bonds purchased on a discount basis, on which interest has been accrued to the extent of the increment in the redemption value. Receipts at the Museum from sales of catalogues, etc., have not been verified by us but we have made tests of the procedure followed in recording these receipts and found it to be satisfactory. We examined approved vouchers or other evidence of approval in support of all cash disbursements for the year.

\* \* \* \* \*

In our opinion, based upon our examination, the accompanying statements present fairly, on the basis indicated, the position of the trust as at December 31, 1944 and a summary



of income received, expenditures and appropriations for the year ending on that date.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & Co.

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, TRUSTEE UNDER THE WILL OF ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER

BALANCE SHEET – DECEMBER 31, 1944

ASSETS

*Investment Assets:*  
Securities (at market values as shown in Trustee's inventory as of December 24, 1936, and subsequent additions at cost):  
    Bonds (at available market quotations as at December 31, 1944, \$1,359,062.63)  
    Stocks (at available market quotations as at December 31, 1944, \$2,642,736.25)  
Investment in Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company (at liquidating value as at December 31, 1944, \$76,000)

Cash on deposit  
Owing from current working assets

*Fixed Assets*—at appraised values as shown in Trustee's inventory as of December 24, 1936:  
Museum land and buildings  
5,000 shares of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, representing:  
Contents of the Museum building \$4,015,000.00  
Lot and greenhouse 49,000.00  
Total general fund assets

*Pension Fund Assets:*  
Cash on deposit  
Bonds, at market values as shown in Trustee's inventory as of December 24, 1936, and subsequent additions at cost (at available market quotations as at December 31, 1944, \$185,932.81)  
Accrued interest on United States Savings Bonds, Series D and F 1,795.00

*Current Working Assets:*  
Cash on deposit and on hand, less \$427.45 payable for securities purchased

Investment of current funds:  
Bonds, at market values as shown in Trustee's inventory as of December 24, 1936, and subsequent additions at cost (at available market quotations as at December 31, 1944, \$236,191.06)  
Accrued interest on United States Saving Bonds, Series F

Less—Amount owing to General Fund Investment Assets

*Note:* Gains and losses from sales of securities have been determined on the basis of values shown in Trustee's inventory as of December 24, 1936 or the cost of subsequent acquisitions.

LIABILITIES

*General Fund:*  
Balance, December 31, 1943 \$8,808,557.91  
Deduct—Net loss from sales of securities during the year ending December 31, 1944 (see note below) 25,469.59

Add—Transfer from reserve for amortization of bond premiums 8,783,088.32

*Pension Fund:*  
Balance, December 31, 1943 \$ 233,086.62  
Additions during the year:  
    Appropriation from income for the year 1944 \$ 10,000.00  
Income from Pension Fund investments 5,236.12

Deductions:  
Pensions charged to Fund during the year 1944 \$ 5,550.60  
Pension insurance premiums (net) 3,032.96  
Loss from sale of securities (see note below) 276.91

*Current Working Funds:*  
Reserve for maintenance and depreciation (no change during the year 1944) \$ 137,602.30  
Reserve for amortization of bond premiums:  
Balance, December 31, 1943 \$ 34,263.73  
Deduct—Excess of amortized bond premiums recovered, over provision from income for year 1944 \$ 9,242.57  
Accumulated reserve applicable to bonds sold in 1944 and prior years, transferred to General Fund 20,628.54

Current surplus account:  
Balance, December 31, 1943 \$151,921.77  
Add—Excess of income received over expenditures and appropriations for the year ending December 31, 1944 (per statement attached) 28,775.71

\$9,365,871.53

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED  
TRUSTEE UNDER THE WILL OF ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER

STATEMENT OF INCOME RECEIVED, EXPENDITURES  
AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
DECEMBER 31, 1944

Income received:

Dividends on capital stocks	\$121,263.09	
Interest on bonds(not including interest on Pension Fund investments)	54,562.08	
Interest on investment in Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company	2,000.00	
Sales of catalogues, post cards, etc., at Museum	<u>3,027.52</u>	\$ 180.852.69

Expenditures:

Current operating expenses:

Salaries and wages and artists' fees	\$ 87,333.87
Traveling expenses	185.47

Plant and flower expenses:

Greenhouse	\$6,596.33
Outside garden	<u>1,552.35</u>
Heat, light, water	5,177.48

Repairs:

Works of art	\$1,652.95
Museum building	<u>4,565.16</u>

Supplies and equipment	1,470.10
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Sundry operating expenses	4,472.19
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Insurance	3,230.95
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Compensation of officers	7,000.00
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Investment service fees	6,000.00
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Trustees' fees and expenses	598.43
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Rent of office	926.66
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Office expenses	770.14
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Legal and auditing services	<u>2,550.00</u>
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\$134,082.08

Cost of printing post cards, etc., for sale at Museum	1,710.62
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City of Boston assessment for tax on Museum property for the year 1942	<u>16,066.85</u>	151,319.55
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\$ 29,533.14

Appropriation for Pension Fund	\$10,000.00
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Less—Excess of amount of amortized bond premiums recovered by sales of securities over provision for amortization for the year 1944	<u>9,242.57</u>	757.43
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Excess of income received over expenditures and appropriations, carried to current surplus account—per balance sheet		<u>\$ 28,775.71</u>
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*Fifty copies of this book were printed for THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, by The Southworth-Anthoensen Press, Portland, Maine*















